

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A multimedia signal processing apparatus comprising:  
2 a communication service unit having a plurality of types  
3 of signal processing modes corresponding to a plurality of types  
4 of communication service classifications;  
5 communication service classification identifying means  
6 for identifying, on the basis of signal processing request  
7 information on one call communicated from a higher-rank node,  
8 a communication service classification for said call; and  
9 mode control means for controlling a signal processing  
10 mode of said communication service unit to a mode suitable for  
11 the communication service classification identified in said  
12 communication service classification identifying means.

1 2. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 1, wherein said mode control means comprises external  
3 indication type mode control section for controlling said signal  
4 processing mode of said communication service unit in accordance  
5 with a mode setting instruction from an external device.

1 3. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 1, wherein said mode control means includes:  
3 history information managing section for managing  
4 history information on mode control implemented in the past;  
5 and  
6 prediction type mode control section for predictively

7 controlling said signal processing mode of said communication  
8 service unit on the basis of said history information.

1 4. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 3, wherein said prediction type mode control section  
3 includes time factor mode controller for controlling said mode  
4 of said communication service unit to a mode corresponding to  
5 mode setting information at a specified time on the basis of  
6 time information based on said history information and said  
7 mode setting information.

1 5. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 1, wherein said communication service unit includes:  
3 storage means for storing a plurality of types of  
4 communication service control programs corresponding to said  
5 plurality of types of communication service classifications;  
6 and  
7 mode selection control means for controlling its own  
8 signal processing mode by loading selectively with a  
9 corresponding communication service control program from said  
10 storage means in accordance with a signal processing mode control  
11 indication from said mode control means.

1 6. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 2, wherein said communication service unit includes:  
3 storage means for storing a plurality of types of  
4 communication service control programs corresponding to said

5 plurality of types of communication service classifications;  
6 and  
7 mode selection control means for controlling its own  
8 signal processing mode by loading selectively with a  
9 corresponding communication service control program from said  
10 storage means in accordance with a signal processing mode control  
11 indication from said mode control means.

1 7. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 3, wherein said communication service unit includes:  
3 storage means for storing a plurality of types of  
4 communication service control programs corresponding to said  
5 plurality of types of communication service classifications;  
6 and  
7 mode selection control means for controlling its own  
8 signal processing mode by loading selectively with a  
9 corresponding communication service control program from said  
10 storage means in accordance with a signal processing mode control  
11 indication from said mode control means.

1 8. A multimedia signal processing apparatus according to  
2 claim 4, wherein said communication service unit includes:  
3 storage means for storing a plurality of types of  
4 communication service control programs corresponding to said  
5 plurality of types of communication service classifications;  
6 and  
7 mode selection control means for controlling its own

8 signal processing mode by loading selectively with a  
9 corresponding communication service control program from said  
10 storage means in accordance with a signal processing mode control  
11 indication from said mode control means.